

helped the United States win the cold war by supporting this amendment.

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the en bloc amendment which includes my amendment relating to the Comanche helicopter program. This should have been included in the report accompanying the bill, but the language did not fit neatly within the parameters of one subcommittee since it involves procurement, R&D, and National Guard issues.

By way of background, the Army's Comanche program has been restructured four times over the past 10 years purely for budgetary considerations. As a result of pushing the program off to the right, the development of the T-800/801 engine has outpaced that of the airframe. This production gap will give the Army a unique opportunity to initiate a number of risk reduction and cost avoidance initiatives. By placing the Comanche engine into Army Guard Huey's (UH-1's), the Army can validate logistics support and operational data of the engine. This effort will also sustain the T-800/801 industrial base until the Comanche comes on line, which is estimated to save \$107 million. The second feature of this effort is that it provides the National Guard with the ability to procure a light utility helicopter [LUH] that is far superior to the current Huey's in range, payload, and performance.

My amendment is very straight forward and involves no additional funding; it merely states support of the Army's efforts to minimize costs and technical risks of the very important Comanche program.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Chairman, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Chairman, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE].

The amendments en bloc were agreed to.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina) having assumed the chair, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1119) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, the Chair will now put the question de novo on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1532, on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

The Chair announces that further proceedings on the motion to suspend

the rules and agree to House Concurrent Resolution 102 will be postponed until Wednesday, June 25, 1997.

VETERANS' CEMETERY PROTECTION ACT OF 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question de novo of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 1532, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HYDE] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1532, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to direct the United States Sentencing Commission to provide sentencing enhancement for offenses against property at national cemeteries."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNUAL REPORT ON FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES, FISCAL YEAR 1995—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight:

To the Congress of the United States:

As provided by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (Public Law 92-463; 5 U.S.C., App. 2, 6(c)), I am submitting my third *Annual Report on Federal Advisory Committees*, covering fiscal year 1995.

Consistent with my commitment to create a more responsive government, the executive branch continues to implement my policy of maintaining the number of advisory committees within the ceiling of 534 required by Executive Order 12838 of February 10, 1993. As a result, my Administration held the number of discretionary advisory committees (established under general congressional authorizations) to 512, or 36 percent fewer than the 801 committees in existence at the time I took office.

During fiscal year 1995, executive departments and agencies expanded their efforts to coordinate the implementation of Federal programs with State, local, and tribal governments. To facilitate these important efforts, my Administration worked with the Congress to pass the "Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995" (Public Law 104-4), which I signed into law on March 22, 1995. The Act provides for an exclusion from the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) for interactions between Federal officials and their intergovern-

mental partners while acting in their official capacities. This action will directly support our joint efforts to strengthen accountability for program results at the local level.

Through the advisory committee planning process required by Executive Order 12838, departments and agencies have worked to minimize the number of advisory committees specifically mandated by statute. There were 407 such groups in existence at the end of fiscal year 1995, representing a 7 percent decrease over the 439 at the beginning of my Administration. However, we can do more to assure that the total costs to fund these groups, \$46 million, are dedicated to support high-priority public involvement efforts.

My Administration will continue to work with the Congress to assure that all advisory committees that are required by statute are regularly reviewed through the congressional reauthorization process and that remaining groups are instrumental in achieving national interests. The results that can be realized by working together to achieve our mutual objective of a better, more accessible government will increase the public's confidence in the effectiveness of our democratic system.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, June 23, 1997.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. EHLERS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. EHLERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

COMMEMORATING 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF TITLE IX

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. BONIOR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment at the outset to thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii [Mrs. MINK] for all the work she has done on title IX. The gentlewoman from Hawaii [Mrs. MINK] was here in 1972, and was involved in title IX from its very beginning. She has made a big difference in the lives of women throughout this country. I respect her both for her leadership and for her determination.

We are here gathered today to commemorate the 25th anniversary of title IX, the landmark civil rights legislation that has opened the doors for young women in our Nation's high schools, colleges and universities.

I was on an athletic scholarship in 1963 to the University of Iowa, on a